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NORTH VIET NAM

A F4 Phantom fighter-bomber and 2 unmanned spy planes respectively grounded in Quang Binh province on May 17 and over Haiphong on May 18 and 23.

Total loss in U.S. planes between August 5, 1964 and May 23, 1969:

3,291

Between the night of May 11 and May 15, 1969

400 TARGETS IN 80 CITIES AND URBAN CENTRES

The NFL Ten Points Show the Way to a Viet Nam Settlement

ON November 3, 1969 while announcing its acceptance to participate in the Paris Conference, the NFL proclaimed its five points which should guide the Conference work and serve as a basis for any sound solution to the Vietnam problem. On May 8, 1969 at the Conference was nothing time after three and a half months of negotiations as a result of U.S. bad faith, a new text was presented to it by the NFL representative; that is the principles and main content of a ten-point overall solution to the South Vietnamese problem to help restore peace in Vietnam.

Stemming both from the NFL Political Program passed in August 1967, these two successive documents are pervaded with the same spirit of independence and peace — true independence in genuine peace. With the ten-point overall solution, the NFL position concerning a Vietnam settlement has now been made clear in a distilled and concrete manner and the parties concerned can take it as a basis to conclude agreements with which to crown the Conference.

The tenor of the NFL proposal from its beginning to its end is the principle of respect for the Vietnamese people's fundamental national rights and for the right to self-determination of the South Vietnamese. To make possible the full exercise of these rights, the NFL document stresses, first of all, U.S. aggression against Vietnam should be ended, and more particularly the United States should withdraw from South Vietnam all U.S. and satellite troops and military personnel, without setting any condition whatsoever. A clear distinction should be drawn between the withdrawal of U.S. and satellite troops and the problem of Vietnamese forces in South Vietnam, the latter issue coming under the sole competence of the Vietnamese parties concerned.

The South Vietnamese people's right to self-determination is embodied in their freedom to choose their own government. The NFL has been favouring free, democratic general elections to form such a government. Now in its overall solution, it gives an unambiguous answer to the questions: who will be responsible for the organizing of general election? It will be — the NFL says — a provisional coalition government resulting from negotiations between "the political forces representing the various social strata and political tendencies in South Vietnam that stand for peace, independence and neutrality". Isn't this an appropriate proposal fully conforming to the spirit of national concord and large union?

The NFL ten points once again re-affirm the foreign policy of peace and neutrality to be implemented by a South Vietnam free from American control. They also outline a process of peaceful and gradual reunification of both zones of Vietnam. What is noteworthy here is that while confirming the existence of a military demarcation line and a demilitarized zone separating the two parts of Vietnam, the NFL makes it a point to stress that the former is only of a provisional character and "does not constitute in any way a political or territorial boundary" and that it is up to the two zones to come to terms on the statute of the demilitarized zone and work out modalities for movements across the provisional demarcation line. This is a relevant answer to the U.S. attempt to transform the DMZ issue into a major topic to be discussed by the four-party Conference and a

(Continued page 2)

Including 23 Airfields and 33 Bases, HQs and CPs of Army Corps, Divisions, Brigades and Regiments Attacked by PLAF

Preliminary Reports :

15 Battalions and Equivalent Units and an Armoured Corps of the U.S. - Puppets Destroyed or Decimated

PAGE II

Quang Nam province
PLAF men in action.



PARIS CONFERENCE ON VIET NAM HOLDS 18th PLENARY SESSION

(May 22, 1969)

THE Saigon administration's unequivocal opposition to the NFL ten-point overall solution was voiced by the puppet representative at the 18th plenary session of the Paris Conference. At the same session, U.S. representative Cabot Lodge reiterated the "mutual withdrawal of troops" plea contained in President Nixon's May 14 speech. He used specious arguments to prove that the U.S. was, for the respect of the South Vietnamese people's right to self-determination, but this was only to camouflage U.S. intention to continue in office the rotten and warlike Thieu-Ky-Huong regime as tool for the achievement of U.S. neo-colonialism in South Vietnam.

NFL delegate Tran Huu Kiem pointed out that the U.S. "mutual withdrawal of troops" thesis testified to the American rulers' stubborn denial to the Vietnamese people of their fundamental national rights and right to self-determination in U.S. aggression. In sticking to it, the men in Washington persisted in putting on an equal footing the aggressors and those who oppose aggression and in confusing the issues between the United States and the Vietnamese people with those to be settled among Vietnamese parties. Reaffirming Mr. Nixon's proposal of U.S. and satellite troops from South Viet Nam, with

U.S. troops, the first stage of which lasting 12 months and the second having no definite time limit, the NFL chief negotiator said that this was a proof of the U.S. design to protect American military presence in South Viet Nam so as to gain time to consolidate the puppet army and administration and to "de-Americanize" and "Vietnamize" the war.

The Front's envoy severely castigated the American rulers' disregard of the idea of a coalition government when dealing with "free elections". On the other hand, they lavished praise on Nguyen Van Thieu's six-point plan which demanded that members of the NFL "renounce the use of force and participate in elections organized within the framework of the Saigon constitution." The Thieu-Ky-Huong administration is totally illegal and represents nobody, said Mr. Tran Huu Kiem. "The NFL supports the struggle of South Viet Nam townfolk for the removal of this inhuman and illegitimate regime and its replacement by a peace cabinet with a view to putting an early end to the war."

Taking the floor in his turn, DRVN delegation leader Xuan Tuy stressed the necessity of mutual withdrawal of U.S. and satellite troops from South Viet Nam, with

no condition attached; this was a touchstone of soundness of any solution offered to the Vietnamese problem. The NFL ten-point overall solution enjoyed the warm support from world opinion, precisely because it met this requirement. On the contrary, Mr. Nixon's 14 May speech was not reasonable because it included the "mutual withdrawal of troops" thesis which had been rejected by the NFL and the DRVN. The reason given by Mr. Nixon for his refusal to accept "unilateral withdrawal" of U.S. troops, Mr. Xuan Tuy pointed out, was that such a step would be followed by massacres in South Viet Nam. This held no water, the DRVN chief negotiator said, since it was none other than the United States that has been deploying its "formidable" war machine in massacres of South Vietnamese.

Mr. Xuan Tuy denounced the U.S. intensification of "mopping up" operations in South Viet Nam and repeated violations of its sovereignty and threats to the security of the DRVN. He concluded that although the NFL had no commonality with its ten-point overall solution, the Paris Conference made no headway precisely because the U.S. was still holding to its warlike and neo-colonialist policy.

Hanoi Press Opinion

Tottering SEATO

ON May 20, 1969, the U.S. led Seato regional forum instead of remaining a military alliance, whereas its Philippine counterpart wondered whether it would be advisable simply to wind up the military bloc (UPI May 2).

It is in such conditions that Secretary of State Rogers was sent to the Seato meeting in Bangkok. His mission was firstly to remove the anguish from U.S. satellites, minds, and secondly to patch up the tottering alliance and gear it up more efficiently to the US war of aggression in Viet Nam. Freshly arrived at the capital of Thailand, Rogers declared that there would be no change in American policy toward Southeast Asia and that the U.S. was resolved to maintain and refloat the Seato.

It is clear that the U.S. imperialists are endeavouring to get out of the present quagmire, thereby exposing their difficulties and weaknesses. Inner dissensions and threat of collapse now plaguing the Seato as well as the Nato and the Cento are indicative of the utter insolvency of the US and the fiasco of its policy of aggressive military alliances.

Quau doi Nhan Dan (People's Army, May 21, 1969)

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Quau doi Nhan Dan (People's Army, May 21, 1969)

THE NORTH-GREAT REAR BASE OF THE SOUTH

INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S DAY, JUNE 1

Tending the Young Shoots of the Fatherland

HO TRUC

Vice-Minister of Education, Secretary of the Viet Nam Working Youth Union

PRESIDENT HO AND "SPRING OF HUMANITY"

"THE year begins with youth. Youth is the Spring of humanity." These words are taken from President Ho Chi Minh's letter to the youth and children throughout the country on the occasion of New Year's Day 1966. Shortly after the triumph of the August Revolution and the founding of the DRVN, President Ho Chi Minh sent a letter to the people on the occasion of the beginning of term (Sept. 1945) "Listen to me, my nieces and nephews".

He wrote, "Listen to a person who has always been earnestly wishing for your progress. In the coming school-year, strive to be industrious in learning, be active, obey your teachers and emulate your friends. Eighty years of slavery have weakened and degraded our country. To lay must restore the heritage left by our ancestors in such a way that we can catch up with other countries on this globe. In this reconstruction work, the country places much hope and trust in you. Whether the land of Viet Nam will regain its glory or not, whether the Vietnamese nation will have the honour to march abreast with the great powers of the five continents or not depends largely on your efforts in learning..."

And so, it has become a custom since the August Revolution, that every year, on the occasion of the Mid-Autumn Festival (1) or the new school-year, Uncle Ho writes letters to encourage and enlighten Vietnamese children. He teaches them:

- to love their Fatherland and their fellow-countrymen;
- to achieve good results in learning and in manual labour;
- to live in harmony with each other and observe discipline;
- to practise hygiene; and
- to be modest, honest and courageous;

These teachings have set the standards of the new virtues for our school-pupils. Uncle Ho has also initiated the "teach-me, learn-me" emulation movement and has many times given detailed instructions to the teaching body to help clearly realise its duties and tasks and master new educational methods in order to

train the pupil into a new man with a well-balanced and all-sided development, and not simply to teach knowledge. Every year, the President commands good teachers and good pupils.

Fired by this great concern and care, the youth and children of our country have launched a broad campaign of a mass character called "Act up to Uncle Ho's teachings and strive to become his good nieces and nephews". So far, 2.5 million Vietnamese children have been honoured as "Uncle Ho's good nieces and nephews".

ACTING UP TO UNCLE HO'S TEACHINGS.

ADDRESSING the Vietnamese children in the first Mid-Autumn Festival of the DRVN, Uncle Ho admonished, "You must love your country. I hope to-morrow you'll grow up into worthy citizens of our independent and free state". The crop of children of 1945 has become grown-up and imbued with Uncle Ho's teachings, they have manifested their love for the Fatherland and fellow-country-

men by taking up arms against foreign aggressors and a good many of them today are "Valiant anti-Yankee fighters". They have also served as shock troops on the production front. As workers and peasants of the new generation, as young socialist intellectuals, they are contributing to bringing glory to the Viet Nam Fatherland. Organized and led by the Viet Nam Working Youth Union the members of the Viet Nam Vanguard Young Pioneers Brigade today demonstrate their love for the country and the socialist regime with the "One thousand good deeds" movement launched by pupils of the elementary schools of Lien Son village (Ha Bac province).

"One thousand good deeds" are daily routine, ordinary but full of meaning, such as providing the army-men with a great service, collecting rags for them to clean their guns, coming to the assistance of aged persons, families of fallen or disabled army-men, tending buffaloes and oxen and other domestic animals, etc. In many localities, children form their own dance and song groups and give performances to

mobilise the people to fight and to produce better. In Quang Binh, North Viet Nam's coal-producing province alone, there are 800 such dance and song ensembles. The tree-planting and the tree-protection movement has also become popular with the children. In 1968, children of 6 ethnic groups of Hoa Binh province planted more than 21,000 fruit trees. To help improve the diet of the army-men as a sign of their affection for the fighting men, children have

started an "anti-Yankee poultry raising" drive. Those in Nam Ha, North Viet Nam's coal-producing province alone, there are 800 such dance and song ensembles. The tree-planting and the tree-protection movement has also become popular with the children. In 1968, children of 6 ethnic groups of Hoa Binh province planted more than 21,000 fruit trees. To help improve the diet of the army-men as a sign of their affection for the fighting men, children have

(1) The Vietnamese children's new festival falling on the 15th of the 8th lunar month (usually in September)

The NFL Ten Points...

(Continued on page 1)

violated the defence of the separate State of South Vietnam against the alleged invasion by the North Vietnamese!

The last two points of the NFL relate to two other aspects of the Vietnam settlement, namely the aftermath of the war and international supervision of the withdrawal from South Vietnam of U.S. and satellite troops.

As can be seen, the solution proposed by the NFL is an "all-round" one. All important aspects of an eventual settlement are included in it, and the solution suggested by the NFL to each one of those aspects faithfully reflects the principle of respect for the Vietnamese people's fundamental national rights and the spirit of national concord permeating the exercise by the South Vietnamese people of their right to self-determination. At the same time, the overall solution supplies all

guarantees for a lasting peace in this part of the world.

It is easy to imagine the warm welcome accorded by the whole world and especially by American opinion to the NFL ten-point all round solution. For several months now, the American nation has been expecting President Nixon to live up to his electoral pledge to achieve a prompt cessation of the Viet Nam war. Day after day has passed and the list of U.S. casualties has been only growing longer; neither the change in military strategy nor the massive use of B-52s has contributed to improve the position of the U.S. Democratic and Republican congressmen alike have got impatient. Businessmen have voiced their dissent. A whole city council - that of Chicago - by a unanimous vote urged President Nixon to bring home the GIs. And

now there appears the NFL overall solution which shows the way to a national settlement, to an "honorable peace" for the United States!

Prompted by the desire to dam up the tidal wave of support for the ten points, Mr. Nixon hastily delivered his May 14 speech. His long-advised "peace programme" was at last made public. People were expecting from it something moral and constructive. But nothing of the sort came! A number of American papers agreed with Representative D. Fraser who found in Mr. Nixon's speech not only an element that had not been put forward by the American side to the Paris Conference.

Mr. Nixon was clever enough to even pay tribute to the NFL initiative. But to a shrewd observer what is important is the American President's own conception of a solution to the Viet Nam

issue. And what a disappointment for him in this respect!

It is now transparent that Mr. Nixon refused to stop U.S. aggression against Viet Nam. He did not want to withdraw from South Viet Nam U.S. satellite troops since he kept on settling terms with a puppet army and a puppet administration. It is true that Mr. Nixon still hopes that time will work in his favour and will help him secure a position of strength from which he will be able to tell his peace programme to the Paris Conference but all this is sheer illusion! A similar hope was once entertained by Mr. Johnson and his aides. Some of the latter however have been awakened to this bitter reality: the situation, far from improving, has become increasingly bad to worse for the American aggressors. Will Mr. Nixon wait until the total collapse of his house of cards to lend a more attentive ear to the NFL proposals?

WHAT are Mr. Nixon's true intentions? What his generals are doing in South Viet Nam and what he himself just declared in Washington on May 14 concerning the NFL? Let us cast a strong light on his

haunting dream of imposing U.S. control over South Viet Nam. While negotiations in Paris are dragging on, he plays for time to achieve his plan to "Vietnamize" the war, in other terms to realize U.S. neo-colonialism by the agency of a puppet army and a puppet administration.

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CHILDREN'S DAY STORIES

JUNE First, International Children's Day. It is a greatly meaningful day. To the children, it means before sitting down to the traditional feast where jam and fruits are served galore. That it was in a festive mood on September 2, 1955 - the 15th day of the 8th month of the lunar calendar - about a hundred children from Canh Duong village situated on the coast of Quang Trach district, Quang Binh province, got together on the beach to celebrate their traditional festival. Their mirth was at its peak when from the high sea a flight of American jet planes roared in with bombs and rockets. In a twinkling of an eye the place was all of a shambles! Small bodies grotesquely mutilated, wounded children lay on the sand. This happened at a time when the U.S. military formula, profusely supplied by the American authorities for the world's consumption was: "Use U.S. forces only struck at 'concrete and steel' in North Viet Nam."

Monstrous crimes have been committed in Viet Nam. On the occasion of the International Children's Day, let's speak of the "nightmare army of the world" which has been unleashed.

AS THE FESTIVAL WAS AT ITS GAYEST

EVERY year when comes mid-Autumn and the moon appears in all its splendour, it is the Children's Festival in Viet Nam. According to an age-old tradition, on that day the children

gather and give themselves heart and soul to their favourite games: unicorn dances, torch processions before sitting down to the traditional feast where jam and fruits are served galore. That it was in a festive mood on September 2, 1955 - the 15th day of the 8th month of the lunar calendar - about a hundred children from Canh Duong village situated on the coast of Quang Trach district, Quang Binh province, got together on the beach to celebrate their traditional festival. Their mirth was at its peak when from the high sea a flight of American jet planes roared in with bombs and rockets. In a twinkling of an eye the place was all of a shambles! Small bodies grotesquely mutilated, wounded children lay on the sand. This happened at a time when the U.S. military formula, profusely supplied by the American authorities for the world's consumption was: "Use U.S. forces only struck at 'concrete and steel' in North Viet Nam."

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Binh. Such Oradours and Laidons can be found almost everywhere in Viet Nam.

"INTRA-UTERINE" CASUALTIES.

It sometimes happened that even before being brought to the world, Vietnamese already fell victims to American barbarity. On April 14, 1968 after a massive U.S. attack on Nam Dinh city in the early morning, one found among the casualties a pregnant woman named Tran Thi Nam, hit by several steel-pellet bomb. During a subsequent operation the doctors found in the womb of the foetus a steel pellet which, entering by the amputated neck, travelled obliquely her body to fatally strike the heart of the unborn baby.

But there were instances where the victim was miraculously saved thanks to prompt attention. It was the case of little Bao Ngoc whose photograph was released to the press at the time. On July 3, 1969 when Mrs Le

thi Khanh, his mother, was carrying in her arms her 4-year old eldest son, U.S. planes flew in and bombed her living quarters located in the Hiep Hoa district town (Ha Bac province). Mrs. Khanh, then only about 15 days to her term, received multiple wounds. Urgently operated on, she was saved. When the surgeons took out the baby, they found with a great shock he carried on his left temple a V-shaped metal object the size of a great bone. It was one of the b-mb splinters that had perforated the mother's abdomen. The child was saved, too. It was perhaps the only survivor of American barbarity, hit right in the womb of his mother.

EXCERPTS FROM A MOTHER'S DIARY.

THERE have been cases where the pathetic horror and hatred challenged all rhetorics and of which no words can render the vivid impression. The following lines taken from a diary of a young woman in Quang Binh named Mrs. Yen are illustrative enough.

(Continued page 7)

(Continued from last issue)

II. U.S. PREDICAMENT AND IMPASSE

U.S. military setbacks

Long teeth but

He cannot dodge the powerful political pressure of the American

too short arms.

— Their disasters in the aggressive war in Viet Nam have created for the US imperialists many difficul-

A search for a position of strength, Mr. Nixon's wild dream.

In fact, there is a limit to the US

(Continued page 7)

* Sub-heads and bold-faced emphases are ours—Ed.

and thanks to good
and evacuation, the
were kept at a f
level. It is re
however, that a
of 15 was killed in
during a bombing

Had it not been for the charred skeletons of former brick houses and the innumerable bomb craters, one would say that life had never been so flourishing. Needless to say, these are not the work of a miracle. This aerial fight has mobilized the whole population without exception and this mobilization has been total. Even

From May 1 to 6, American aircraft and artillery bombarded without let-up the southern part of the DMZ.

Had it not been for the charred skeletons of former brick houses and the innumerable bomb craters, one would say that life had never been interrupted here. To say, these are not the work of a miracle. This all-out fight has mobilized the whole population without exception. There has been total. Everything has been total. Every-

tion in Ba Lang An, Quang Ngai province, under the command of the American Colonel William Doty (in February and March, over 200 people there had been killed and over thousand of others of villages destroyed).

To every Cam Binh village, "production is the lock and culture is the key". There are three enemies to overcome: famine, aggression and illiteracy. It can be rightly said that in this area of Vietnam probably more than any where else, man has made everything with his own hand. Having to fight against a millenary poverty, an obscurantism carefully cultivated

U.S. planes made 7 sorties over Hanoi and 7 over Haiphong port city.

They repeatedly bombed and strafed several populated areas in Quang Binh province and Vinh Linh area.

To increase crop output they have taken soil samplings and remarked that the land can be improved by the use of certain natural fertilizers, for instance, seabam, cannabica or azolla pinnata which have been grown on hundreds of "mau" and proved to be good manure of ricefields. In 1968 the village reaped 63 tons of azolla in addition to animal compost. About 6030 "mau" of ricefields are ploughed by machines and more and more improved farm tools have been put to use. Not content with the development of education

to the present level, the Party has worked out plans to ensure that by 1970 all inhabitants from 18 to 24 years of age will have completed their second degree education. Displaying a particular concern for the youth who are fighting against U.S. aggression, the Party has urged them to push up their education till the third degree. And it is also planned that by 1975 the entire population would have completed their second degree education and all the young men and women, their third degree

Anyone who had the opportunity to witness the remarkable results achieved by the teachers and population of Cam Binh, cannot help but decide that such objectives reasonable by themselves will be attained as scheduled. Having succeeded in pushing ahead culture and education right at the moment when the American aggressors were leaving no stone unturned to bring the Vietnamese people to their knees, the army and the people, with the return of peace, the inhabitants of Cam Binh will make of the model village a happy land full of promises for the future.

ANTOINE DAUPHIN

(An European traveller's note)

ON THE LARGE SOUTHERN FRONT

MILITARY OPERATIONS

National, Democratic and Peace Forces

Alliance backs NFL ten points

"Nixon Is Following Johnson's Beaten Track" Alliance's Leader Declares

In a statement dated May 15, 1969, Lawyer Trinh Dinh Thao expressed on behalf of the Central Committee of the Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces full support for the ten-point overall solution proposed by the NFL representative at the Paris Conference. The Alliance's President pointed

out that the spirit of this overall solution was "completely consonant with the Manifesto for National Salvation and the Political Program of the Alliance as well as with the political line followed by it for over a year now."

Lawyer Trinh Dinh Thao called on all intellectuals and personalities, all political, religious, cultural and social groupings and organizations in South Vietnam, all overseas Vietnamese all peace- and justice-loving peoples and governments and all democratic and peace organizations throughout the world to lend a vigorous support to the NFL ten points.

The Alliance hoped that the United States could finally find in these ten points the "honorable" way out it had been looking for. Lawyer Trinh Dinh Thao said in his statement, "The plan shown by the NFL, he added, was the only one that would enable the US to pull an end up to the dirty war which every day dimmed its image, took a toll of the lives and wealth of its citizens and brought it only hatred from other nations."

The statement went on: "Such men in the Johnson team as were in favour of the continued presence of the US in South Viet Nam, like Humphrey, Clifford, Goldberg, etc., have now raised their voices and urge a rapid repatriation of US soldiers. Influential Republican senators, among them Nixon, Scott, etc., have also called for the withdrawal of American troops from South Vietnam. However Nixon has not drawn any lesson from his setbacks for a more intelligent political line in South Vietnam. In his eight-point peace program, he continued to stick to his presumptuous and irrational (namely, withdrawal of troops) proposal and he did not let down his war-like clique of agents, Thieu-Ky-Huong Triumvirate, whom he wanted to entrust with the task of organizing eventual general elections."

"Nixon is following Johnson's beaten track," Lawyer Trinh Dinh Thao concluded, "and the dirty war in Vietnam has become Nixon's criminal war. There is no doubt that more grievous setbacks are in store for the United States as a result of its present obstinacy and short-sighted policy."

(Continued page 7)

GIANG PHONG Press Agency has just summed up PLAF activities in the first 4 days of the new wave of offensives on the night of May 11 throughout South Viet Nam.

Following their assaults in the first days of May in the sectors of Tay Ninh and Long Khanh to the North west and Northeast of Saigon respectively, of Dakto (in the Western Highlands) and of Da Nang, the PLAF sprang into action in the small hours of May 12 in all theatres of operation, from the areas close to the 17th parallel down to the Ca Mau peninsula in the Southernmost sector of the country.

According to still incomplete initial statistics, 400 targets were hit by the PLAF either by artillery fire or ground assaults, or by both. Eighty cities, provincial capitals and district towns came under fire as well as 73 airfields and 33 H.Q.'s and C.P.'s of regiment, brigade, division or army corps size and logistic bases of the US-puppet.

Following is a general picture of various theatres of operation:

In the 2 northern provinces of South Viet Nam (Quang Tri and Thua Thien), on the very first night, more than 20 raids were mounted. The whole defence line along Highway No. 9 South of the DMZ was shaken. Connection points such as **Cum Viet port, Dong Ha** (US garrison division base), **Cam Lo, Tan Lang** (base), to Americans as (Rickle), **Ma Nam** (the Far West fort of the system), **Gia Linh** (farthest in the North), etc., were heavily pounded or assaulted by the PLAF, which triggered off big fires and inflicted heavy damage on the installations.

To the Southwest of Hue and in the hilly areas of this sector where elements of the U.S. 1st Airborne Division attempted a sweep to hold firm on Route 12, the PLAF in 4 days put nearly 900 enemy troops out of action, destroying 3 U.S. battalions and 2 U.S. battalion C.P.s.

In the coastal region, they attacked the airfields of **At Tai**, Northwest of Quang Tri, **Tay Lo** in the Hue citadel, and **Phu Bai**, South of Hue, **Fort Mang Ca** in Hue was not spared.

In the 11 provinces of Central and South Trung Bo, to the Northeast of Saigon, between Da Nang and Phan

Thiet and in the Western Highlands, 220 targets were chosen by the PLAF for their strikes, including bases, positions, airfields and military depots in 7 cities and 50 districts, towns, and sub-sector H.Q.'s; nearly 7,000 adverse casualties were listed among their 4,000 G.I.s, 5 infantry battalions, an armoured column, 3 battalion C.P.'s and some 20 companies wiped out or decimated, more than 100 military vehicles, 53 cannons and 6 logistic depots destroyed, 87 planes and helicopters shot down or burnt, and more than 300 weapons seized by the patriots. Enemy base under attack included more than 300 battalion and regiment C.P.'s and Brigade, Division and Army Corps H.Q.'s and 14 military airports.

In this 4-day period, the Da Nang air base and the C.P. of the U.S. 4th Marine regiment at An Hoa (45 km Southwest of Da Nang) were

incensed of Quang Nam were also badly mauled; losing several companies and an armoured sub-regiment put out of action or decimated, 400 casualties reported, 31 vehicles wrecked, 14 planes and helicopters downed and some 100 weapons seized by the PLAF.

Further South, 400 enemy soldiers were knocked out of action on the night of May 11 at Song Mao (200 km East-Northeast of Saigon), the base camp of puppet Regiment 41.

In the Western Highlands, the H.Q.'s of Corps II in Pleiku and of the puppet 3rd Infantry Division in Buon Me Thuot were hit. On the highways, several enemy convoys suffered heavy losses.

Meanwhile, the guerrillas and regional troops of the PLAF neutralized some 100 military posts and "pacifi-

An American L-19 plane downed in Tay Ninh province



attacked such 3 times. At **Phong Tuong** in the Da Nang port area, the PLAF struck at a missile base, destroying 2 U.S. companies, 5 launching ramps and dozens of missiles.

Further Southeast, in the **Tam Ky, Chu Lai** and **Quang Ngai** sectors, the **Aerobird** Division also sustained serious losses. Its C.P. and those of its 106th, 108th and 11th brigades as well as 3 battalion C.P.'s were raided and 2,000 G.I.'s put out of action. Puppet troops in the provin-

cial "teams" and did away with what remained of the enemy coercive apparatus in the rural areas.

In Eastern Nam Bo, i.e. on the Saigon front, the whole enemy defence line in all directions and around the capital was shaken.

In Tay Ninh province, over an area was attacked in force and 2 battalions of the First Air Cav. were written off, one on May 12 at Ba Chiem (45 km East-Northeast of Tay Ninh) and the other 3 days later at **Sue Ta** (40 km Northeast of Tay Ninh). A puppet paratroop battalion was wiped out on the night of May 11 at **Cay Cho**, about 40 km Southwest of Tay Ninh.

At about the same time, the PLAF destroyed a battalion CP and depleted an artillery battalion of the **Big Red One** at **Phu Long**, 17 km North-Northeast of Saigon. Less than 24 hours later, in the sector of **Huon Quang**, another provincial capital 90 km North of Saigon, 2 U.S. bases lost nearly 1,000 men killed or wounded, 105 armoured cars and trucks and 25

heavy cannons destroyed and 21 planes and helicopters shot down or blasted to pieces on the ground.

Further South, in the **Ben Cat** area, 45 km North-Northeast of Saigon, on the night of May 11, the PLAF wiped out a mixed U.S. battalion at **Ca Tong**, while on the front South-West of Saigon, in **Tan An** province, 25 enemy positions were struck, among them a Regiment CP and several district towns. Closer to Saigon, a U.S. paratroop battalion was decimated at **Go Noi**.

Finally to the East of Saigon, at about 25 km from the city, on the night of May 11, the PLAF destroyed at **Huon Sun**, first two Thai companies, then a Thai battalion sent in to rescue the former.

In Saigon itself, the people's self-defence forces stepped up their onsets in the 1st, 2nd, 4th and 6th districts, putting 150 enemy die-hard agents out of action.

Many vehicles of the aggressors and traitors were

LATEST NEWS

Operation "Appach Snow" in the hilly areas west of Hue:

From May 12 to 21, 1,500 U.S. "paras" of the 10th Division killed or wounded, chiefly in A Huu mountain range.

Da Nang and Nuec Man airfield bombarded on the night of May 10; 25 planes and choppers destroyed, heavy material damage.

(Giang Phong Press Agency)

Biggest ammo depot in Saigon region completely blasted out by PLAF on May 23

(Western reports)